

NE Ohio Safety Expo

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023

Conference goal

The annual event is proudly presented by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Youngstown Service Office and the American Society of Safety Professionals – Northern Ohio Chapter. The goal is to provide all employer types with valuable and effective information about safety and health programs. With 20 sessions, there's something for everyone. Session topics include fall protection, accident analysis, workers' compensation and more. Also don't forget to check out the exhibitor area where over 50 safety and health exhibitors will show off their goods and services!

Location

Eastwood Event Centre
5577 Youngstown Warren Rd.
Niles, Ohio 44446
330-989-7225

Registration

Educational sessions have a limited number of seats, so please register and pre-pay by Friday, Sept. 22, 2023. On-site registration is welcome for an additional \$10 but we cannot guarantee there will be space available in all the sessions.

[Register online](#)

Conference times

Registration: 8 - 9 a.m.
Conference: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Exhibit Area: 8 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.



Conference price

Attendees: \$40. Lunch is included in the registration fee.
Exhibitors: \$250, which includes an exhibit table.
Spaces are limited.

Educational credits

- Safety council members may earn one external credit for BWC's Safety Council Rebate Program. Stop by the BWC booth located in the Expo Center to get your certificate. Maximum – one external training certificate per company.
- Attending two sessions marked with an asterisk (*) fulfills the two-hour training requirement for BWC's Group-Experience-Rating Program or Group-Retrospective-Rating Program.

Educational sessions

The educational sessions are listed below by time of day. You'll choose which sessions to attend during online registration.

For more information:

For questions on educational sessions or exhibitors contact David Constantino at 330-301-5825 or email at David.C.12@bwc.state.oh.us

9 - 10 a.m.

Incident investigation for ergonomic injuries*

Audrey Hemlinger, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

Musculoskeletal disorders, sometimes called "ergonomic injuries," account for nearly 30% of workplace injuries and illnesses, yet these injuries are often not investigated properly to identify root causes and corrective actions. This session will discuss how investigating ergonomic injuries differs from traditional injuries and strategies employers can use for investigating these injuries.

Does complacency cultivate risk in the workplace?*

Nic Coia, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

Complacency is a significant concern in many workplaces, leading to a compromised focus on safety and an increased risk of accidents and injuries. This course will provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of complacency, its impact on workplace safety, and effective strategies to mitigate its detrimental effects. During this course, participants will delve into the root causes and manifestations of complacency in work environments. Participants will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to identify and address complacency-related issues within their organizations.

Life cycle of a claim

Colleen DeSiato, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Claims Services

This session will discuss the life cycle of a claim, including an explanation of the roles of each party involved in claim processing such as the managed care organization and BWC, elements required for

initial processing of a claim, discussion of how requests are processed and the different types of compensation available. The session also covers options available to assist with return-to-work efforts such as transitional work and vocational rehabilitation, and claim resolution options.

ANSI Z359.14-2021: A new standard in fall protection*

Matthew Hohman, FallTech

There's a new ANSI Standard for Fall Protection and it may impact the industry more than you think. Learn about the new ANSI Standard and how it will change the fall protection you use.

10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Lockout/Tagout requirements for employers*

Brian Zachetti, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

This session will examine best practices surrounding the control of hazardous energy and how they may apply to your workplace. Topics of discussion will include machine-specific energy control procedures, minor servicing considerations, energy source evaluation, and employee training. This session will also provide instruction regarding requirements for energy isolation devices, group lockout requirements, and program development.

Part 1: A.L.I.C.E. Alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate training*

Chriss Moffitt and Bob Thompson, Training Specifics

The A.L.I.C.E. program is designed to give mental and physical tools that may play a vital role in survival for those who find themselves in violent or life-threatening situations.

Electrical safety for non-electricians*

Ranzy Brown, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Everyone uses electricity in some form, yet most people do not understand the underlying hazards. We can use electricity safely because basic safety rules and equipment are in place to protect us. This session will help non-electricians understand these basic safety requirements and how to recognize when they've been removed, bypassed, or just wear out.

10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Trenching & excavating hazards*

Dennis Hobart, Dennis Hobart

When it comes to excavation safety, are you prepared? This session will provide an overview of general requirements, competent person responsibilities, soil classifications, protective system requirements, and common mistakes made.

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Managing workers' compensation in compliance with HR laws

Elizabeth ("Liz") Crosby, Buckley King LPA

Managing workers' compensation claims can be stressful. Coordinating those claims with other state and federal laws affecting worker rights can be frightening! Attendees will learn what laws are important in coordinating responses to complex claims.

The impacts of ototoxic chemicals on hearing*

Megan Steele, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

Did you know you can lose your hearing without being exposed to noise? Ototoxic chemicals have been shown to cause hearing loss among workers without exposure to noise and to increase hearing loss among workers exposed to noise. In this presentation, we will cover the different types of ototoxic chemicals, how they act on the auditory system, and what changes employers should consider making to their hearing conservation program when ototoxic chemicals are present in the work environment.

Part 2: A.L.I.C.E. Alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate training*

Chris Moffitt and Bob Thompson, Training Specifics

The A.L.I.C.E. program is designed to give mental and physical tools that may play a vital role in survival for those who find themselves in violent or life-threatening situations.

Electrical hazards in construction*

Michael Kovacic, ES Squared Inc.

Electrical current keeps construction sites running but can have dangerous consequences for workers on the job. That's why reducing or eliminating exposure to harmful electrical current is a top priority for employers and employees throughout the construction industry. This session will better prepare attendees to identify, mitigate, and respond to electrical hazards.

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

What to expect when your INSPECTING: CliffsNotes to safety audits*

Cari Gray, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

Whether you are just starting safety inspections or have been doing them for years, this session is for you. We will explore the who, what, when, where, why, and how of this important safety task. This session will focus on how to find the hazard, assess the severity, find a road to abatement, and communicate it all. Together, let's reveal the good, the bad, and the ugly of safety audits in this lighthearted and informative session.

Identifying and controlling health hazards at your facility and job site*

Sarah Ghezzi, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Division of Safety and Hygiene

Do you know what your employees are inhaling at work? Learn about the common processes that may result in hazardous chemical exposures to your employees. Processes covered will include spray painting, welding, metal fab/cutting, concrete cutting, sandblasting, and more. This session will also cover the basics of controlling these health hazards in the workplace using the hierarchy of controls. Best practices and OSHA requirements will be included in the presentation.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Accident analysis and prevention workshop*

Ana Cammarata, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation,
Division of Safety and Hygiene

This workshop will focus on techniques for gathering complete, accurate, and objective incident data, establishing root causes, reporting findings, and determining corrective action. It will include discussion, demonstrations, and exercises cover investigation and interview techniques. Participants learn how to uncover the who, what, why, when, and how of each incident, and how to analyze data to prevent injuries, property damage, and financial losses.

OSHA visits a construction site, understand the process*

Adam Fries, Occupational Safety and Health Administration
– Cleveland Area Office

This session will touch on the following topics:

- The reasons for an OSHA inspection (complaints, emphasis programs, workplace injury/fatality)
- Opening conference
- Walk-through inspection (photos, measurements, etc.)
- Employee/management interviews
- Management rights during an OSHA inspection
- Union rights during an OSHA inspection
- Types of documents OSHA requests
- Closing conference
- Citations and citations process (informal conferences, contest, abatement)

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Slips and trips – the forgotten parts of STF*

Pat McCon, Zurich Resilience Solutions

A lot of attention is paid to preventing falls from height. These events are often spectacular and life-changing/life-ending. Less attention is paid to the less spectacular but much more frequent incidents involving falls on the same level, usually the result of a slip or trip.

If we understand the mechanics behind these events, we can take effective action to prevent them. Tech-

nology is available to measure the ‘slipperiness’ of a walking/working surface (the ‘coefficient of friction’) and engineering controls are available to make those surfaces safer.

It’s not just ‘Watch Your Step’!

OSHA Update – what are the priorities for 2023 and beyond?*

Howie Eberts, Occupational Safety and Health Administration
– Cleveland Area Office

Hear it straight from the source! Howie Eberts, OSHA Area Director in Cleveland, will share his wit and wisdom and provide insight on OSHA’s priorities for 2023 and beyond.

How to bring your problem workers’ compensation claims to closure – four case studies

Cheryl Altizer, Promedica Medical Management

Are you struggling to bring closure to an active workers’ compensation claim that keeps going? Using the expertise of Promedica’s managed care organization and third-party administrator staff, this session will review four case studies. We will provide examples of problem claim closure by use of vocational rehabilitation, BWC’s assistance, and on-site and off-site options.

State of the union of employment drug testing

Ruth Bowdish, On Demand

Our state of the union of drug testing will look at the current outlook of drug/alcohol use on the job, addressing marijuana legalization with your drug-free policy, the regulations and increasing importance of maintaining a drug-free policy, a look at oral fluid testing, and how to foster a recovery friendly environment on the job.